



TN Statewide Interoperability Executive

TN SIEC
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Federal Communications Commission FCC 06-83
Before the Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554
In the Matter of
Recommendations of the Independent Panel Reviewing the Impact of Hurricane Katrina on
Communications Networks

EB Docket No. 06-119
NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING
Adopted: June 16, 2006 Released: June 19, 2006

The Tennessee State Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) hereby submits the following additional comments on ways the FCC can assist State and Local government to be better prepared for disaster response and recovery:

1. Keep the existing Fire Mutual Aid channels, 154.265, 154.280 and 154.295 as well as their narrowband counterparts, and 155.475, National Law Enforcement Emergency Channel, for mutual aid usage only. Mutual aid channels should not be authorized for usage as dispatch or paging channels. This is a problem in Tennessee and surrounding states that makes the mutual aid channels unusable with departments paging and dispatching on them and some being made into mobile relay / repeater systems, defeating the purpose of their mutual aid designation. The FCC needs to encourage Frequency Coordinators to keep designated mutual aid channels for mutual aid only.
2. The FCC could help states keep their statewide channels clear. One suggestion is to allow State agencies to provide FCC designated Frequency Coordinators with a list of FCC designated "Statewide" channels for protection within 35 to 50 miles of the state border depending upon terrain protection.
3. A designated database, such as CAPRAD, operated by the National Law Enforcement and Correctional Technology Center in Denver, be utilized as a repository of interoperability information for State and local government interoperability plans and channels. CAPRAD has been an excellent tool in assisting in the 700 MHz public safety spectrum and is already hosting interoperability information.
4. I would like to commend the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials, (APCO) Frequency Coordination section, for working to promote interoperability and for establishing an Interoperability page on their web site. It is the best site for interoperability we have utilized.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Respectfully submitted,



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